



The State of Utah

Department of
Natural Resources

Division of
Oil, Gas & Mining

ROBERT L. MORGAN
Executive Director

LOWELL P. BRAXTON
Division Director

OLENE S. WALKER
Governor

GALE F. McKEACHNIE
Lieutenant Governor

Representatives Present During the Inspection

Company Johnny Pappas Sr. Environmental Engineer

Inspection Report

Permit Number:	C0070038
Inspection Type:	COMPLETE
Inspection Date:	Wednesday, October 29, 2003
Start Date/Time:	10/29/2003 8:30:00 AM
End Date/Time:	10/29/2003 2:45:00 PM
Last Inspection:	Monday, September 22, 2003

Inspector: Pete Hess, Reclamation Specialist III

Weather: Clear, sunny/cold, 40's Fahrenheit

Accepted by: pgrubaug
11/05/2003

Permittee: **PLATEAU MINING CORP**

Operator: **PLATEAU MINING CORP**

Site: **WILLOW CREEK MINE**

Address: **847 NW HWY 191, HELPER UT 84526**

County: **CARBON**

Permit Type: **PERMANENT COAL PROGRAM**

Permit Status: **ACTIVE**

Current Acreages

14,670.00	Total Permitted
161.55	Total Disturbed
	Phase I
	Phase II
	Phase III

Mineral Ownership

- ☒ Federal
- ☐ State
- ☐ County
- ☒ Fee
- ☒ Other

Types of Operations

- ☐ Underground
- ☐ Surface
- ☐ Loadout
- ☐ Processing
- ☐ Reprocessing

Report summary and status for pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments:

Reclamation activities at the site continue; the Crandall Canyon surface facilities area has approximately two or three weeks of activity remaining. The main channel construction here is approximately 70% completed. Activities which continue at Crandall Canyon include the digging of the remainder of the main channel, spreading of topsoil in areas where final grading has been achieved (to the tops of the numerous cut banks in the Canyon), roughening, mulching and hydro-seeding. At the preparation plant, the permittee's contractor is preparing to drop approximately one-third of the main wash plant building, located adjacent to the Price River. Dismantled conveyor sections are being hauled from the property by new owners.

Inspector's Signature: _____

Date Friday, October 31, 2003

Pete Hess, Reclamation Specialist III

Inspector ID Number: 46

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

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REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENT

1. *Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.*
 - a. *For COMPLETE inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check Not Applicable.*
 - b. *For PARTIAL inspections check only the elements evaluated.*
2. *Document any noncompliance situation by reference the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.*
3. *Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.*
4. *Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.*

	Evaluated	Not Applicable	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Signs and Markers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Topsoil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.e Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Explosives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Disposal of Excess Spoil, Fills, Benches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Noncoal Waste	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Slides and Other Damage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Contemporaneous Reclamation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Backfilling And Grading	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Revegetation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Subsidence Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Cessation of Operations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.b Roads: Drainage Controls	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Other Transportation Facilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. Support Facilities, Utility Installations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS Check	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Air Quality Permit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. Bonding and Insurance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

The Division recently completed a review of the permittee's proposal to add an "industrial" use to the currently approved post mining land uses of wildlife habitat and grazing. The approval of the industrial use would allow the permittee to leave the buildings in the Mine facilities area, as well as numerous roads which provide access to the utilities and the storage areas which are being proposed to remain. There are several deficiencies which must be addressed prior to the second Division review.

4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions

The permittee has recently reworked many of the sites diversions including the ditch along the inside toe of the School House Canyon waste rock facility access road. All diversions appeared to be capable of functioning as designed.

4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments

The permittee continues to conduct monthly inspections of the School House Canyon waste rock facility on a monthly basis, per the MSHA approved variance. The pond was last inspected on October 21 by Mr. Steve Rigby. There were no hazardous conditions noted nor were there any signs of instability observed. Pond 013A was observed to be dry this day. The installed sediment marker indicated that there is more than an adequate amount of sediment storage capacity remaining at this time. The third quarter 2003 impoundment inspections for the site were conducted by Mr. Pappas on August 4, 2003. There were no hazardous conditions noted by Mr. Pappas for any of the ponds. Pond 014 (lower Crandall Canyon) was reclaimed during the latter part of August; pond 015A (also located in upper Crandall Canyon) was reclaimed during September. The permittee is using the storage capacity associated with the preparation plant thickener pond for the purpose of concrete disposal.

4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures

The permittee is implementing extreme roughening in Crandall Canyon to provide sediment control on the reshaped, topsoiled slopes.

4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring

The permittee notified the Division on October 29, 2003 that the third quarter of 2003 surface and ground water monitoring information for the Willow Creek permit area was ready for uploading into the electronic data input web site. A review of the permittee's UPDES discharge monitoring reports for the months of July, August and September of 2003 revealed that no outfalls have occurred during that period for any of the ponds. In the cover letters included with the August and October reports, the permittee also informed the Utah Division of Water Quality that ponds 014 and 015 (Crandall Canyon) had been reclaimed, and were no longer capable of discharging to Crandall Creek. As no outfalls occurred from the remaining ponds, there were no effluent parameter exceedances. All reports were submitted to the respective government agencies in a timely fashion.

7. Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments

The third quarter 2003 waste rock pile inspection for the School House Canyon facility was conducted by Mr. John Borla on July 25, 2003. There were no hazards noted during that inspection nor during today's field inspections. There was no evidence of spontaneous combustion within the pile; there was no combustible waste or other noncoal waste observed. The pile is idle at this time. Mr. Pappas indicated he is pursuing a plan to reclaim the pile by "V"ing the Canyon slopes back and installing a drainage through the center of the facility.

12. Backfilling And Grading

Grading activities in the Crandall Canyon area are nearly complete. Some areas of cutbank need minor amounts of additional fill placed to bring the head of the fills to the top of the cut slope interface. Mr. Pappas and Mr. Mark Greenhalgh (Nielsen Construction) are aware of the areas and are working to correct the volume deficiencies.

13. Revegetation

Both mulching and hydroseeding activities are occurring in the Crandall Canyon area. Straw mulch is being blown onto the pocked surface areas. Where hay mulch has been applied, a track hoe is working the hay into the pocks to increase the organic material content of the soil.

20. Air Quality Permit

The permittee was using a water truck on the Crandall Canyon access road this day.

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21. Bonding and Insurance

The current general liability insurance remains in affect until January 1, 2004. The amount of the reclamation bond remains unchanged at \$7,866,000.

22. Other

The following facilities have been removed since the last inspection; the electricians storage shed in Barn Canyon, and power poles in the School House Canyon area. The contractor removing the wash plant building is making preparation to collapse approximately one-third of that structure.